



























#### DEATH BY REMOTE CONTROL

### HANGMAN STORY

Globe, Sun-Telegram, and Chronicle poised their pencils. The Hangman was about to

THE reporters from the

make a statement to the District Attorney:

"D.A., I've compiled a list of the criminals who are on

the loose . . . and the crimes they're responsible for. I've. run up against quite a few," said the Hangman smilingly,

"but my memo pad contains those I haven't put where they belong! Tomorrow night that hat will be in your hands!"

In the labyrinth of the underground, four mobsters net vously puffed at their eigarettes. A crumpled latesedition of the Globe lay on the table.

At last the Slugger poke: "Guess it's all up, boys! I'm movin' outa town-you comin' along?'

"You bet," growled one of the gangsters the Weaseli as

"Count nie in," added John nyboy. Johnnyboy looked so young, but his mind was warped with the desire to kill. Of ten the Slugger had thought his trigger finger was too itchy; perhaps he'd get rid of

Jul-nylloy tome days "I'm with you Slugger," remarked Lucky Lou, "This town and goma be safe if de Hangman hands in my name."

The Slugger rose to his leet, went to the inner room, closed the door behind him . . . and reached for the telephone.

After what seemed an eternity, Slugger came out, a smile.

on his face.

"I just been speakin' to the Hangman. I know he hangs out with that Thelma Cordon

dame. Well, it's all fixed . . . every man has his price, and the Hangnian's gonna be reasonable, I want you boys to pick him up at Triangle Square at eleven tonight. Hey, Johnnyboy, run out and get me a coke, will ya?" As Johnnyboy ran out, the three remaining mobsters starced knowingly at each other, and bout forward, intent upon their plans,

Later, as a white moon picked ont the city with milky light, the two beady eyes of the black sedan blinked as it pulled up at the Square. A muscular hooded figure stood under a street lanto, arms akitobo . . The Hangman! Three masked men stepped

sation ensued, and the men ale lowed themselves to be frisked. "I hope you don't mind," said the Hangman, "but I want to make sure you lads aren't double crossing me M. Satisfied, the Hanghian

out of the car. A hasty conver-

climbed in, followed by the others. The rear door slammed shut, and the bluck sedan slipped into the night Minutes ticked by . . . they

were nearing the edge of town, Soon the coast-line darted into view. A hundred yards away stood a deserted light-house on a fringe of rock. The Hangman was aware of the roaring of the surf, hundreds of feet below. The car pulled up.

"Here's de hideout-everybody out!"

"You go wid de Hangman, Johnnyboy," spoke a harshvoice. "We just wanna turn de 3 car round, and we'll be right witcha!"

"Sure," Lucky,", replied

Johnnyboy. He also wore a mask, but his slight youthful frame was unmistakable,

Suddenly shots pierced the night, blackness enveloped Johnnyboy as he sank to the ground. Grazed, the Hangman whipped about to charge his

attackers, when-I wo more

shots flashed towards him, He

doubled up on the moist earth. Lucky Lon and Weasel ran up to where the two bodies lay stretched out! "Too bad we hadda knock off Johnnyboy,"

remarked the Weasel soberly. "He was a good kid-mebbe lie had/an itchy trigger-finger, but he was a good kid!" "Orders, is orders "/ vaid Lucky Lou laconicalty. "Slugger says bring 'em out to dis

together so's Hangman won't get suspicious-an' we did ids' that! Boy whatta day this'll be for all my pals in town-think of it, Weasel; the Hangman's dead." "Come on, let's not mang around de Hangman, Lucky!

lonely spot, an' bunn off

Grab dat menio book Slugger wants, an' let's scram," The deft fingers of Lucky Lou, ex-pickpocket, and now lock piecker extraordinary, frisked the Hangman's recum-

bent form. "I get it!" "Okay, dump 'em inna sea

-both of 'ent!"

"We gotcher memo book, Slugger!" cried Weasel, as the pair returned from their mission of murder, "An' de Hang-

rod hid inna stearing wheel!" "Hand it over, Weasel,"

man never got wise we hadda

answered Slugger. "What did you do with the bodies?"

"We threw 'em both inna sea, like you told us!"

"S.A-Y! You lousy mugsthis sin't the memo book I

want! This as some scrawy address-book! Weasel! G t that stupid carcuss of yours over to the Hangman'a house and search it thoroughly! TVE COT TO HAVE THAT BOOK!"

It seemed so easy to gain access to the liquee. But Weasel had been there three bours, and not a sign of the memo

book. If he returned without it, he knew Slugger would deal him out of the game. As it was, Johnnyboy was gone . 🗸 - and

Suddenly the door swung/ wide. The Weasel turned, and what met his eyes froze his senses like the grip of an icy

hand! For there, dry ping with water, and with equead hanging from his arms and neck was the Hangman! "I've come back from the dead, Weasel!" Chilling words

dropped mercilessly upon the

terrified Weasel. Slowly the Weasel retreated; there was another door at the far end of the room-he'd escape that way. But as he neared it, the grim harbinger of doom, the gallows, flashed across the door. Quaking with fear, the Weasel held his ground.

form of the Hangman. "Hot bullets scorching, your brains numb, and then the long downward fall into the cold cold water-choking, gasping for life, and finally, life chbs, and you are a dead, numbed, aking blue husk, churning along with

"Do vou know what dyin" feels like, Weasel?" asked the

the tide—lifeless!" Weasel's blood pounded at his temples, his eyes became glazed orbs, his entire body

Hangman, honest I didn't! It was Lucky Lou who done it, honest! N-no, don' come any closer, DON'TI I was only

shook, "I didn't killya, honest,

obeyin' orders from the Slugger! He wanta dat memo book o' yours!" The form of the Hangman /advanced, and a hand covered wit alime and seaweed extended towards the quaking Wessel. Wessel

shricked, and blindly thrushed his way to the street. "Get rid of Weasel fast!" muttered Slugger to Lucky Lou after he'd listened to the tale, "Hangman coming back from the dead! This job's just gone to Weasel's headwe can't use him any more."

A swift blow on the skull,

and Weasel's inert-body was

strapped onto a chair, his feet

placed in a wooden wash-bowl. Cement poured in, and when

il had hardened, two shapea

carried the unconscious form to the river, and the last the night heard of Weasel was large splash ( . . Weasel was throught "Where to now, Slugger?" asked Lucky Lou as the pair raced along in their aedan. "State Cemetery, Lucky! V went down-to the morgue this morning, and was told a man

with the build of the Hange

man had been found off shore. Someone claimed the body, and it was buried this afternoon The Hangman must have had that memo book on Aim! I got to get it! The crunch of two spades. into the newly filled in earth echoed against the aide of a

white mausoleum nearby. "This ain't my idea of a pleasant evening," muttered Lucky Lou. "Boy, this place gives me the jitters!"

"DOES IT, LUCKY?" The

ness. Both thugs stopped their work, holding their breath. An eerie green glow fastened itself to their faces-the

metallic coldness of the voice

of doom rang out in the dark-

gallows! "H-Hangman!" choked the Slugger! II th-thought you

were d-desd!" had on a nice brand of bullet-proof vest, Slugger!

And the man who was found in the sea and supposedly buried here-well, the guard at the morgue was an FBI man, I've been on your trail for months!"

"You won't get mel" With the desperation of the doomed, Slugger lunged at the Hangman, hia apade swung bigh. As it crashed down, the Hangman side-stepped neatly . . . and the weapon of iron and

wood crunched into Lucky Lou's head. Slugger bad killed Lucky Lou! The Slugger gasped, his hand clenched over his heart:

"Ggot to g-get that note-book GOT TO!" In an instant Slugger keeled over. Suddenly the awesome acene

the FBL Slugger opened hia eyes, and musinured: "Th-the note-book, where is it?" "There never was any, Slug-

was broken by the arrival of

"But I knew you would come out of hiding if you thought there was one! Fear-fear that your past was catching up to you brought about the deaths of Weasel, Johnnyboy,

ger!" replied the Hangman.

Lucky Lou, and finally . . . you, Slugger! The noose of the gallows will fit right over your head!"

"N-no, n-not the gallows," whispered Slugger. All at once he gave a little scream, and fell over .y.r. dead.









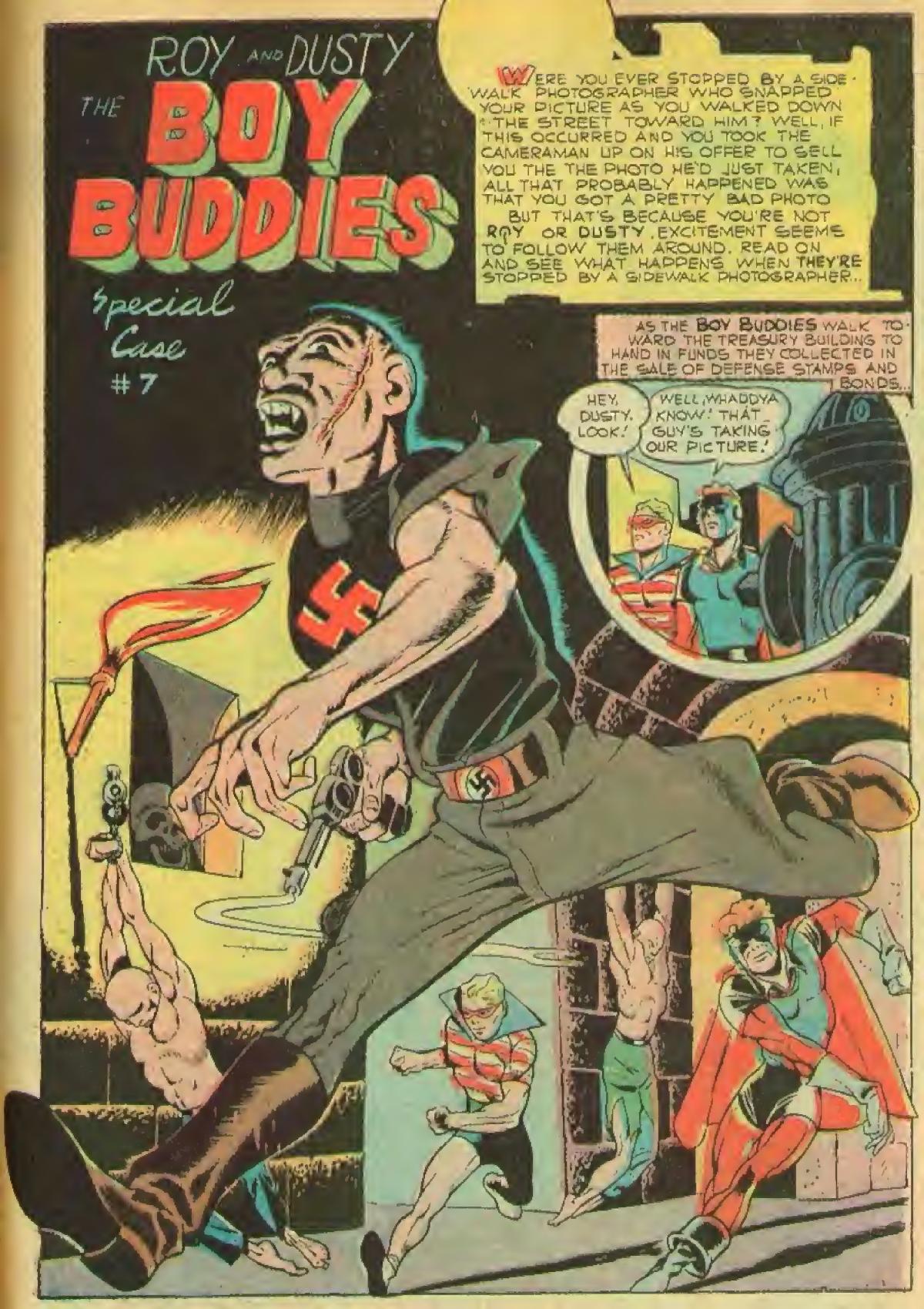














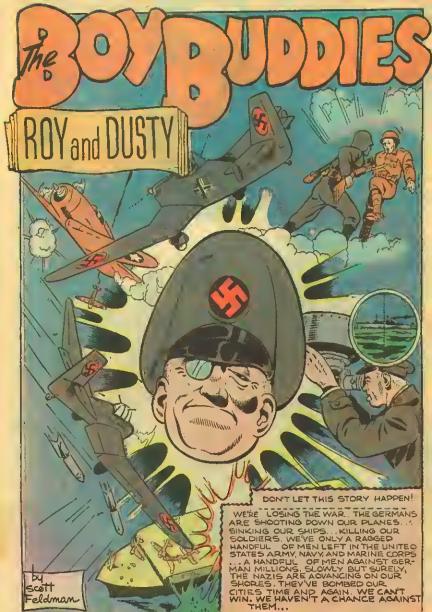
























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